

Request for Information ARPA Community Funding

1.0 Introduction and Purpose

Coconino County is seeking information on community needs within indicated categories. The County intends to invest American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds on projects that improve outcomes in the indicated categories and will use the feedback received along with community needs assessments and other information gathering tools to further refine priority services and fund projects.

This is a Request for Information (RFI) only. This RFI is issued solely for information and planning purposes – it does not constitute a Request for Proposals (RFP) or a promise to issue an RFP in the future. This request for information does not commit the County to contract for any supply or service. The County is not seeking proposals and will not accept unsolicited proposals. The County will not pay for any information or administrative costs incurred in response to this RFI. Not responding to this RFI does not preclude participation in any future RFP issued.

Responders should be advised that the County is only able to provide services that are statutorily legal and compatible with ARPA requirements.

2.0 Background

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by the President. Section 9901 of ARPA amended Title VI of the Social Security Act (the Act) to add section 602, which establishes the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund, and section 603, which establishes the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (together, the Fiscal Recovery Funds). The Fiscal Recovery Funds are intended to provide support to State, local, and Tribal governments (together, recipients) in responding to the impact of COVID-19 and in their efforts to contain COVID-19 on their communities, residents, and businesses. The Fiscal Recovery Funds build on and expand the support provided to these governments over the last year, including through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF). Coconino County anticipates around five million dollars will be available for community funding.

3.0 ARPA Guidelines and Allowability

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds reporting guidelines indicate that the County, as a recipient, should identify eligible uses of funds:

- i. Identify a COVID-19 public health or economic impact on an individual or class (i.e., a group) and
- ii. Design a program that responds to that impact.

Step	1. Identify COVID-19 public health or economic impact	2. Design a response that addresses or responds to the impact
Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can identify impact to a specific household, business or nonprofit or to a class of households, businesses, or nonprofits (i.e., group) • Can also identify disproportionate impacts, or more severe impacts, to a specific beneficiary or to a class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of responses can include a program, service, or capital expenditure • Response should be related and reasonably proportional to the harm • Response should also be reasonably designed to benefit impacted individual or class
Simplifying Presumptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Rule presumes certain populations and classes are impacted and disproportionately impacted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Rule provides non-exhaustive list of enumerated eligible uses that respond to pandemic impacts and disproportionate impacts

4.0 Funding Area Priorities

The Board of Supervisors have identified seven service area priorities for funding:

- Housing
- Support for Vulnerable Populations
- Behavioral Health Treatment and Support
- Education
- Business Support
- COVID Impact for Eligible Local Governments
- Workforce Development

The County is interested in receiving information on specific unmet needs within any Funding Area Priority. Input on needs and potential services to address those needs may be provided for any specific geographic area or throughout all of Coconino County.

Links to recent community needs assessments and surveys can be found here:

Coconino County Community Health and Human Services Reports:

<https://www.coconino.az.gov/1507/Community-Health-Reports>

([Community Needs Assessment](#), [Health Assessment](#), Medical Examiner's Report, etc.)

Northern Arizona Regional Health Equity Assessment: https://nau.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/160/2018/09/Wellbeing-in-Arizona_Final-9_22_17.pdf

Social Vulnerability Index: <https://svi.cdc.gov/map.html>

Flagstaff 10 Year Housing Plan

https://www.flagstaff.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/71407/Flagstaffs-10-Year-Housing-Plan_Final-for-consideration

5.0 RFI Review

The County will review all RFI submittals and use this information to determine program outcomes for ARPA community funding. The county will define specific services and projects for procurement according to county and federal procedures and policies.

The County will not respond to individual submissions to this RFI.

6.0 Submittal Information

All submittals shall be due not later than 5:00pm April 15th, 2022. Submittals should be submitted via this County Link [click here](#).

Tentative Time frame

Issue RFI week of March 20th

Due date for submittals April 15th

County review of submittals – throughout April and May

Develop and issue Requests for Proposals for recommend services – Summer 2022

Award of contracts – beginning in fall of 2022.